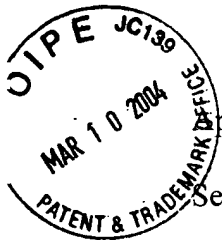


P24167.A02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shoji YAMADA

Group Art Unit : Unknown

Serial No : 10/731,477

Examiner : Unknown

Filed : December 10, 2003

For : AN INPUT ELEMENT AND A METHOD FOR MAKING AN INPUT TO A TOUCH-PAD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,  
Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. H09-319508, which was published on December 12, 1997, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is discussed on page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. H10-003349, which was published on January 6, 1998, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is discussed on pages 3 and 6 of the specification of the above-captioned application.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-148347 A, which was published on May 26, 2000, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is discussed on page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application.

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Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-282450 A, which was published on October 12, 2001, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is discussed on page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are enclosed herewith and are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. Applicant requests that the Examiner initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shoji YAMADA

*Willi Bernstein*  
*Reg. No. 44,550*

Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

March 4, 2004  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.